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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/575,483	06/12/2006	Staffan Tigerfeldt		3618

21839	7590	01/27/2009
BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC		
POST OFFICE BOX 1404		
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404		

EXAMINER	
HOOK, JAMES F	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3754	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
01/27/2009	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ADIPFDD@bipc.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/575,483

Applicant(s)

TIGERFELDT, STAFFAN

Examiner

James F. Hook

Art Unit

3754

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2006.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/12/06
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3, 12, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Korsgaard.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Shaffer (WO 01/53740).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cridland in view of Shaffer (WO 01/53740). The reference to Cridland discloses the

recited insulation system for a pipe comprising a thermally insulating layer 12,14, a vapor barrier 16 which can be formed of foil which can be perforated such as 32, a layer of hygroscopic material 24, 54, the hygroscopic material being a fabric is a non continuous layer where inherently there would be pores formed between threads, the insulation forms a flexible pipe shell, a flap is formed by an extension of the material at 22 and is provided with adhesive 18, the holes in the vapor barrier allow such to inherently have moisture adaptive properties. The reference to Cridland discloses all of the recited material with the exception of forming the hygroscopic material as a layer between the insulation and the vapor barrier, attaching such to the insulating layer by a melted plastic binder that is non continuous, reciting that the hygroscopic material is a thermoplastic, forming the hygroscopic material and vapor barrier as a laminate, and providing an additional layer of hygroscopic material. The reference to Shaffer discloses the recited structure including a hygroscopic material 8 which extends between the insulation 4 and the pipe 2 thereby providing an additional layer of hygroscopic material where such is a thermoplastic material, portion 22 of the hygroscopic material lies between the insulation and a vapor barrier portion 30 that is provided with holes 14 to allow the hygroscopic material to be exposed to atmosphere, where a hot melt adhesive is provided at 32 to attach the vapor barrier to the hygroscopic material, and where a second layer of hot melt adhesive is provided near 18 to connect the insulation to the hygroscopic material, inherently the hygroscopic material and the vapor barrier form a laminate, and since the adhesive layers are not coextensive they are considered non continuous. It would have been obvious to one

skilled in the art to modify the hygroscopic material in Cridland to be formed of a thermoplastic material that is provided in laminate form with the vapor barrier layer such that it can be adhesively attached to both the vapor barrier layer and the insulation layer by a hot melt adhesive that is non continuous, and provide an additional layer of hygroscopic material as suggested by Shaffer where such would provide additional protection to the insulation and would better wick moisture to the atmosphere to protect the insulation and save money in replacement costs.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The references to Royston, Dridi, Cohen, Jepsen, and Vitoorapakorn disclosing state of the art insulation systems.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James F. Hook whose telephone number is (571) 272-4903. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver can be reached on (571) 272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James F. Hook/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3754

JFH